The Saturday News

Vol. IV | EDMONTON, ALBERTA, SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1909 | No. 16

NOTE AND COMMENT

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Not only is there cause for gratification in respect to the nature of the decision reached. The spirit displayed by both parties in coming to it raised Canadian public life to the highest plane that it has yet attained. A week ago it looked as if we were in for another "old-flag" campaign. The situation had all the elements which would lead one to expect this. But instead of appeals to racial and sectional prejudice and frantic denunciations of alleged disloyalty, we had the spectacle of the leaders on each side approaching the question at issue with the calmness and deliberation that its character demanded. There was no questioning of the motives of opponents and the message sent across the sea came as that of the whole people. Who could fail to be proud of being a Canadian citizen and a British subject under these conditions?

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The argument against the scheme that it will disarrange business is far from insurmountable. Even if the inconvenience about the time of the change in the spring and autumn were considerable, it would be many times counter-balanced by our spending an hour more each day up and around when the sun is shining. For this is what would happen in the vast majority of cases.

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SUB DIVISION

H. Alexander. His clear, incisive treatment of the subject of educational ideals gave a measure of the man. A few days before he spoke at a large gathering of farmers at Clover Bar. The evident desire of the university staff to get closely into touch with every-day life and the good impression which they make wherever they go augurs well for the institution's future. What has done more than anything else to prejudice the people of older communities against the cause of higher learning has been the stand-offish attitude of its exponents. To be of any use a university must be closely related to the practical affairs of the people, whom it has been established to serve. When the establishment of the University of Alberta was first mooted, there were many who expected that it would prove the reverse of a public utility. In the course of but a few months this feeling has been very largely dissipated, a fact which stands to the very great credit of the head of the institution and those he has associated with him on his staff.

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The other day the new head of Harvard University, President Lowell, gave an address before the National Municipal Leasue, which is of decided interest to the cities of Alberta where a commissionership system has been adopted.

"There must be," he declared, "a combination of those who are expert in their own work and those who are representative of outside opinion, and the functions of the two ought not to be confused in a city government any more than in the government of a bank, where the same has been the case and greater confidence shown in the other class.

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The comment of the Regina Standard, a newspaper which has strongly supported Conservative candidates in Dominion and Provincial elections for some years past, upon the Alberta result, is of considerable interest. Last week the opinion of a Conservative paper in British Columbia, the Vancouver Province, was published. And now we have this from the most aggressive journal on that side of politics in the Province to the east.

"Saskatchewan's twin sister Province of Alberta," says the Standard, "has sustained the Rutherford Government for a second term with a big majority. That such result would follow the election was a foregone conclusion. Rutherford is an exceedingly strong man and is surrounded with good cabinet material. He did not have to seek a new constituency, nor does he now have to seek pastures new for defeated colleagues.

"Premier Rutherford has looked well to the interests of the agriculturists of Alberta and deserved well at their hands. His energies have been devoted to the upbuilding of the province and the best interests of the People. He did not handicap himself with libel suits, railway deals, suspicious contracts and doubtful exemptions to powerful corporations. He did not play fast and loose with liquor laws, nor impose grievous burdens upon country districts.

"Premier Rutherford did not feel compelled to descend to deceit. He did not make feints to mislead his opponents. He brought on the contest when it was expected. He played the game and won as everybody expected he would win."

In a constituency the name of which is proverbially associated with unwavering support of that party, the Woodstock Sentinel-Review, recently published an article, the courage and forcefulness of which cannot be too strongly commended. To westerners, who have noted with a little concern the tendency on the part of strong and influential eastern Liberals to espouse ideas that were altogether out of keeping with the party's traditions, it is particularly welcome. We reproduce it herewith in full:

"A Liberal paper not long ago, discussing the development of combines under the present Canadian tariff, and the apparent indifference of the politicians at Ottawa, uttered a significant warning about the danger that the people will cease to care for a party which ceases to care for the principles on which it was placed in power.

"The value of such a warning should not be overlooked. The time is passing when any political party can expect to trust entirely to the party spirit to keep its followers in line. If the party distinctions are to be maintained then party principles must be something more than a mere name. The time will come when the party which seeks to justify or excuse the abandonment of its principles on the ground that its general record has been satisfactory will fail.

"It is coming to be generally recognized that brains and honesty and capacity for service are not distributed, bestowed or withheld in accordance with party distinctions. If parties are to be judged simply by their general administrative records, then it may appear to a great many of the intelligent electors that it can make but little difference which party is in power.

(Continued on page 4)

The Hospital Situation

The need for a far-sighted policy based on complete information respecting the problems involved.

Editor Saturday News.

Sir,—Your suggestion last week that the whole hospital question should be fully discussed before any action is taken committing the Board to any line of policy which might later be in any way different from that which they would follow and the public approve with all the facts before them, is so timely that I trust you will allow me space to state fully what appears to me a few of the considerations which should be kept clearly in mind if we are not to act in haste and repent at leisure.

"As to the general policy which should be followed no one will dispute that it should provide efficiency and adequacy of hospital service, with true economy, reasonable permanence, and the possibility of extension as the city grows. Is it of the most momentous kind at such a juncture as the present when they must either "make a spoon or spoil a horn"—a magnificent horn surely, and a spoon that may serve us well and most variously.

Has the general public, clamoring for an immediate solution of the problem the Hospital Board has on its hands, even faintly realized how big that problem is? It appeared to the Board but a short time ago that it was a problem merely of choice of site; but while that is undoubtedly a big part of the problem it is by no means the main part. And frankly, is the Board fully prepared to act with confidence born of full knowledge and what is the true reason for their rather frequent changes of policy within the last few months? It is no aspersion on our Board to say that much remains to be learned about hospitals. Even experts are learning every day. Says one high American authority writing in a medical journal a year ago: "I spent last summer in Continental Europe studying hospital construction and found that a veritable hospital revolution is everywhere in progress, especially in Germany, but also in Italy and France, where it has developed during the past decade. It is no exaggeration to state that many of these modern hospitals are structurally a generation ahead of any at present existing in this country." Edmonton has in its hands at this moment the possibility of being not merely up-to-date in her hospital but actually years ahead of anything in Canada or she may go a generation behind the times.

Does anyone know exactly what are our pure hospital needs in Edmonton to-day, or in what respects those needs are already more than provided for —in how far we are over-hospitalized—and in what other respects provision is lacking? Or knowing these things can anybody tell us exactly how to fill out the actual deficiency and at the same time not sacrifice any of the associated interests?

I am informed by a medical man, who has recently studied the hospital history of Edmonton that there are now over 260 hospital beds in Edmonton. I cannot vouch for the correctness of the figures. In Italy a recent census shows that there is there one hospital averaging 60 beds for every 25,177 people—or in some localities 60 beds for 70,000 people. Now, our needs cannot be judged by Italy's; but at the other extreme I find an American authority stating that one bed per hundred of population is ample. Is Edmonton so unhealthy that an excess in number of hospital beds is not enough? True we have patients from outside our own 20,000 of population. I have a feeling that most of this breathless haste for increased hospital accommodation is due to an exaggerated idea of our real need and a lack of knowledge of our actual existing conditions. And until we are convinced that a thorough, intelligent, and unbiased study of the whole matter in all its bearings has discovered the true solution that will stand abidingly firm our wisest plan is to wait. Festina lente-eile mit weile—make haste slowly, better stand still than move in the wrong direction.

Let us examine the financial importance of the present proposal which seems to be favored by the Board, viz., to spend $150,000 for a site and building in North Edmonton. What does this represent in annual outlay? Taking money at 5 per cent., the interest is $7,500. Allowing depreciation as equal to 5 per cent. of the value of the building and equipment and $15,000 as the value of the site which does not wear out and have to be replaced, we have $6,750.00 (5 per cent of $135,000) as the annual depreciation. At $100 a day for running expenses (which is an average for a good hospital of 60 beds) the running expenses are $36,500 per year. The total is $50,500. In other words the innocent-looking proposal to spend $150,000 in North Edmonton now, means an undertaking that represents annually $50,000! And yet the Board also proposes to look favorably on the union proposition too, in which its position would be much like the boy who joined two other boys in a joint picnic, but on the way to it tucked away the best things in his own basket.

Now my figures may be too high for the annual value of the $150,000 H.B. site hospital, but cut them in two and take the $25,000 to meet our necessities for this year, while we learn exactly the wise and abiding thing for the future. I think the $25,000 would also allow us to spend from $1000 to $5000 on a hospital commission or on the services of a hospital expert. The Board has nothing to lose and possibly very much to gain by judicious waiting. Meyer J. Sturm of Chicago, one of the most able hospital architects of the present day states: "In general it is a safe rule to follow that the time expended on preliminary plans should be sufficient to develop all of the ideas perfectly before the final plans are started. This will obviate the necessity for changes which are difficult to make as well as expensive, and will result in the completion of the plans and the consequent expediting of the erection of the building. . . The laboratory is one of the most important features of well-planned and properly conducted hospitals."

If I have succeeded in adding anything to the feeling that further deliberation is desirable I shall gladly discuss in your next issue the Union hospital scheme, and the difficulties to be met.

Edmonscona.

Edmonton, April 1.

Where is the Spot

An old Spanish proverb states —"The acquiring of wealth depends not on industry or saving, but in being at the right spot at the right time." Why not in Santa Rosa, that high-class subdivision lying across the street west of the Swift Company Packing Plant adjoining the city on the east? City water, electricity, telephones, sewers, street railway this summer, and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway nearing completion along the north. Do you realize that nearly 300 employees are demanding homes near this plant; that over 2800 head of cattle alone, not including the number of hogs and sheep, have been killed and dressed there in one week; that the capacity of this plant will be increased just as soon as the available supply of cattle, hogs, and sheep increases in this territory; that this is bound to result in a city of thousands adjacent to this great plant, as is the case in every other packing center on the continent? Saturday morning we start the sale of choice Santa Rosa lots at $200 and up on easy terms of $10 cash and $10 per month continuing the sale only until this allotment is sold, at which time prices will be materially increased. This advance of prices in this locality in the near future is sure to confirm our judgment that Santa Rosa is the right spot.

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Pianist, M. D. Sklar (Hlavey on Rag Time)

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DANCES, RECEPTIONS, ETC.
(We supply any number of musicians.)

Our Two-steps are invigorating.
Our Waltzes are dreams.

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The Mirror.

Continued from page 7

"You have saved me from the cold water at the risk of your life, and I owe all to you What can I do to repay you for your bravery." She laughs musically.

Charles: Miss Winsome, take me to the scene of devastation at once and let me save YOUR life.

They go out together laughing animatedly.

Mrs. Rumble clasps her hands despairingly: Well, well. How an actress always takes with a man. I almost think I'd prefer the Burns girl. OH, I have the most horrible misgivings.

Curtain.

HOME AND SOCIETY

To London Town from Babylon
The pageant of the world goes by
For you, for you, I pause and con
A Stander-By

The interest of all music lovers in the Province will be aroused by the announcement that Marie Hall, one of the greatest violinists the world has ever heard, is to appear for a one-night engagement in the Capital at the Edmonton Opera House on April 9 th, Good Friday evening, Mr. Walford having been fortunate enough to secure her for that date.

A subscription list is now being filled, and any one desirous of adding their name to the subscriber's list can do so by seeing Mr. Walford.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week subscribers can book their seats, in advance, at the Heintzman and Co.'s store on Jasper Ave; the following week the plan will be open to the general public at the Opera House.

Mr. and Mrs. Bredin left for their home in the far north via their private car, "The Caboose," at one o'clock on Thursday.

All her friends will be delighted to learn that Mrs. Kelly was able to leave the Hospital on Friday last, having made a splendid and rapid recovery from her recent operation.

Her fine new residence on Seventh street is gradually being settled, and will doubtless be one of the prettiest bridal homes in Edmonton, when its young mistress is able to personally superintend its arrangement.

On Thursday Mrs. Bulyea held her last reception of the season. Government House being quite crowded between the hours of four and six.

Mrs Bulyea was looking remarkably well and was exquisitely frocked in amethyst chiffon velvet.

During the afternoon sweet music lent its charm to the happy chatter of women's voices, and guests lingered, enjoying the sociability of the occasion.

The tea-room, always a popular rendezvous, was in charge of Miss Babbit, Mrs. Jack Anderson, Mrs. Hislop, Mrs. Balmer Watt and Miss Macdonald of Winnipeg, all of whom were prettily frocked.

The table was severely simple but very effectively arranged. A great bowl of calla lillies on a mirror base, the edge outlined in palest satin streamers.

I see that Mrs. Bulyea has taken to riding again, I noticed her one morning this week riding a splendid animal and sitting her horse like a queen. Indeed the First Lady of Alberta is an all round accomplished woman, being without doubt the most graceful skater in Edmonton, an expert rider, a fine amateur photographer as her pictures this week demonstrate, and having a great many other accomplishments which, on account of her great modesty the general world is not aware of.

I hear murmurings both loud and deep, likewise profane silences, over the very arbitrary decision reached by the general meeting of the Edmonton Golf Club to bar Saturday teas in future, also to prohibit the ladies playing that day. Their Serene Sultanships are then to king it alone, I understand, the only time, they maintain (a fib) which they can have to themselves.

Seeing that even in past seasons we have been barred from play until four, when if a man isn't too deadly slow for words he can be well on his second round, the announcement comes to the ladies in the nature of a deliberate slap in the face.

It needs no assurances on the part of some of the men to convince us that they had no hand in the forming of any such legislation. One knows instinctively those who helped to reach this ruling, mostly men who can play day in and day out, and do, morning, afternoon, any old time. I think none of the women are overly keen to interfere with any such gentlemen, either in the matter of play or forcing the hospitality of the Club House upon them. And yet it is for the sake of such members, who have not been slow to avail themselves of tea and muffins in the past, that the ONE little social distraction of the summer up here, the Saturday Golf Tea is to disappear in future. Behold a paid female will dispense the social beverage in our stead; tea at so much a cup, when only old women, it seems to me, would care a two-penny for it. One doesn't drink tea, after all I trust, for the mere sake of swallowing so much liquid, but because some one dispenses it in a pleasant home-like fashion, in a way productive of sociability and happy chatter. At so much per cup of a Saturday afternoon I beg to decline.

I understand it cost the club $65 for cream, tea and service. Appalling, in the Capital city of Alberta Why were we not first asked if we wouldn't supply these as well as the refreshments?

Not having been any but a very insignificant prop of the Club in the past, I can safely ask where would the Edmonton Golf Club be today if it were not for the ladies, their interest, their and in giving dances, etc., etc?

On Wednesday, and it please you, we will have our luncheons to ourselves; in the meantime some of the golfing men about town are not too highly popular.

The marriage of Miss Lelia Margaret, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Kerr Coulter, to Mr. Walton Henry Routledge, son of the late Mr. William Routledge, Sydney, Nova Scotia, took place quietly on Tuesday, March 16th, at St. Simon's Church, Toronto, Rev. E. C. Cayley officiating. The bride was given away by her father, and wore her travelling dress of "dead leaf" cloth, hat to match and sable furs. She carried a bouquet of white roses, and was attended by Miss Kate Wickett. The best man was Mr. Richard Cowan. Mr. and Mrs. Routledge left for Buffalo immediately after the ceremony, and will leave for their future home in Athabasca Landing, where the groom is an inspector of the Mounted Police.

Mrs. J. H. McLean held her post-nuptial reception at her home on Telford street West Thursday afternoon from 3 to 6 p.m. The callers were graciously received by Mrs. McLean, who wore her wedding gown of white Liberty satin, trimmed with pearls and chiffon. Miss McLean of Strathcona, who assisted Mrs McLean, was attired in a pretty gown of blue Shantung. The tea room was tastefully decorated with clusters of daffodils and was presided over by Mrs. W. G. Lowry and Mrs. F. C. Wells.—Leduc Representative.

Robert Service, the well-known writer of the Sourdough poems, will join the ranks of the benedicts in the early summer. The prospective bride is a prominent Winnipeg lady.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: "Mrs. John W. Sifton died suddenly last evening at her home, 167 Harrgave street, after an illness which lasted but a couple of days. On Monday last, Mrs. Sifton was down town shopping and contracted a slight cold. As she was not feeling well when she returned, Mr. Sifton called a physician; and, as she seemed to have taken a rather severe chill, a nurse was sent for. Though the cold developed into a severe attack, no danger was feared, and on Thursday she was feeling much better. So marked as her improvement that Mr. Sifton went to his office yesterday morning, but, on returning home at 1 o'clock he found she had suffered a relapse. Doctors were at once summoned, but despite every effort she passed away last evening at 7 o'clock. Mrs. Sifton, whose maiden name was Kate Watkins, was in her 76th year. She came to Canada when a mere girl, and was married to J. W. Sifton in 1853. Six years ago they celebrated their golden wedding. Five children were born, three sons and two daughters. One son and one daughter died in infancy, and one daughter some years since. Mrs. Sifton is survived by her two sons, Arthur Sifton, chief justice of Alberta, and Hon. Clifford Sifton, M.P. O. H. Clark is a nephew. Mrs. Sifton spent the first twenty years of her married life in Ontario, and came to Manitoba with her husband in 1874. She had lived here almost continuously since that time at Selkirk, at Brandon, and for many years past in Winnipeg. She was a devout member of Grace church."

Peggy

FORTUNES IN ADVERTISING.

The death in England recently of Mr. Andrew Pears, J.P., senior member of the great soap firm and managing director of the Isleworth works, recalls anew the value of advertising in building up a business. Mr. Pears was the great grandson of the original Andrew Pears, the founder of the world-famed soap business, who began life as a barber, and later set up business as a general perfumer in Greek street, Soho. A skilled chemist the late Mr. Pears discovered a way to make transparent soap, upon which the family fortunes were built. When, in 1892, the firm was turned into a limited liability company, the yearly profits of the much-advertised soap were said to be £70,000.

Indeed, Mr. Pears once told an interviewer that the annual increase to their business was "a fortune;" one year it was from £40,000 to £500,00.

The greatest feat of Messrs Pears has been the success of their advertisements, "Good morning, have you used Pears' Soap?" is a classic greeting. Again, who is there who has not seen the famous picture "Bubbles," for which the firm paid Sir John Millais £2,200?

The statuette of the cleanly old housewife using Pears' soap with apparently unnecessary vigor on her tearful son, whom she is admonishing as "You dirty boy!" is also a favorite with the public.

The firm has spent over £3,000,000 in advertising, and its publicity bill for a single year has reached £126,000.

Our **Showing** of **LADIES'** New Three Piece **SUITS** Silk Dresses, Misses' Suits and Coats, Ladies' Coats, and

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Try it once and you will not care for any other after.

PINTS 60c. GALLONS $5.00

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At this season of the year when house cleaning and the arrangement of things is the order in every home, you may need a new Brush or Comb to complete your toilet or color scheme. We shall be glad to assist you in making selections.

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Edmonton Opera House
TUESDAY
March 30.

Miss Jenny LEROUGE
Pianist,
Of the Lille Conservatory, France
Assisted by our noted Edmonton singer
Miss Ethel WEBSTER
and Violinist
D. DARIMONT.

TICKETS now on Sale $1.00, 75c., 50c

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The argument against the scheme that it will disarrange business is far from insurmountable. Even if the inconvenience about the time of the change in the spring and autumn were considerable, it would be many times counter-balanced by our spending an hour more each day up and around when the sun is shining. For this is what would happen in the vast majority of cases. We are creatures of habit and while we could get up in the summer at seven o'clock instead of eight, if we wanted to, there is no likelihood of our doing so unless what is really seven o'clock passes for eight o'clock. Then we must consider that in the regulation of our day we are mostly dependent on others. There is no use getting to work an hour earlier in the summer and having an hour more in the evenings for recreation unless those with whom we work and play do likewise. In the extra hour in the morning in the hot weather the average man could get through with half as much as he could during the whole of the rest of the day. The hour in the evening would give him an additional amount of fresh air in the course of the season which would add wonderfully to the length and health of his days.

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The lectures and addresses which members of the University of Alberta have been delivering in different parts of the Province are making us realize what a potent force this institution is bound to become in the life of Alberta. The members of the Edmonton Canadian Club at their luncheon this week had as their guest one of the bright young men President Tory has gathered about him as their guest, Prof. W. H. Alexander. His clear, incisive treatment of the subject of educational ideals gave a measure of the man. A few days before he spoke at a large gathering of farmers at Clover Bar. The evident desire of the university staff to get closely into touch with every-day life and the good impression which they make wherever they go augurs well for the institution's future. What has done more than anything else to prejudice the people of older communities against the cause of higher learning has been the stand-offish attitude of its exponents. To be of any use a university must be closely related to the practical affairs of the people, whom it has been established to serve. When the establishment of the University of Alberta was first mooted, there were many who expected that it would prove the reverse of a public utility. In the course of but a few months this feeling has been very largely dissipated, a fact which stands to the very great credit of the head of the institution and those he has associated with him on his staff.

—

The other day the new head of Harvard University, President Lowell, gave an address before the National Municipal League, which is of decided interest to the cities of Alberta where a commissionership system has been adopted.

"There must be," he declared, "a combination of those who are expert in their own work and those who are representative of outside opinion, and the functions of the two ought not to be confused in a city government any more than in the government of a bank, where the skilled official and the elected director support each other without leaving room for misunderstanding. The distinction, he argued, must be based upon the essential difference in position and intention:

"The expert is expected to make his public work his career. He should devote his whole time to it, receive a liberal salary, and be protected from removal except for cause. The non-professional is not to manage his department, but to see that it is properly managed. He ought not to be expected to give a great deal of time to it, ought to be paid nothing, or a much lower salary than the expert, and ought to give an account of his stewardship by coming up for re-appointment or election at fixed intervals."

This is, of course, the idea that we have been working on in Edmonton. That it is the right one no one who has watched the working of municipal institutions will deny. The trouble is that it is not thoroughly understood. There must be less meddling with details on the part of the non-experts than has been the case and greater confidence shown in the other class.

—

The comment of the Regina Standard, a newspaper which has strongly supported Conservative candidates in Dominion and Provincial elections for some years past, upon the Alberta result, is of considerable interest. Last week the opinion of a Conservative paper in British Columbia, the Vancouver Province, was published. And now we have this from the most aggressive journal on that side of politics in the Province to the east.

"Saskatchewan's twin sister Province of Alberta," says the Standard, "has sustained the Rutherford Government for a second term with a big majority. That such result would follow the election was a foregone conclusion. Rutherford is an exceedingly strong man and is surrounded with good cabinet material. He did not have to seek a new constituency, nor does he now have to seek pastures new for defeated colleagues.

"Premier Rutherford has looked well to the interests of the agriculturists of Alberta and deserved well at their hands. His energies have been devoted to the upbuilding of the province and the best interests of the people. He did not handicap himself with libel suits, railway deals, suspicious contracts and doubtful exemptions to powerful corporations. He did not play fast and loose with liquor laws, nor impose grievous burdens upon country districts.

"Premier Rutherford did not feel compelled to descend to deceit. He did not make feints to mislead his opponents. He brought on the contest when it was expected. He played the game and won as everybody expected he would win."

MISS MARIE HALL
Famous violinist, at the Opera House, Friday, April 9th.

In Saskatchewan, the Standard points out, the Liberals in the federal election carried 90 per cent. of the seats and 60 per cent. in the Provincial ones it doesn't carry out the comparison with Alberta but it is worth while doing so. In this province last October the Liberals only carried 57 per cent. of the seats and in two of the four constituencies where they won out the majorities were by no means large. Last week the Provincial Government carried eighty-eight per cent of the seats with straight Liberal nominees. Two of those were elected as independents are expected to give the administration general support. If they are counted in, the per cent would be close to ninety-three. And then there is the socialist member for Rocky Mountains, Mr. O'Brien, who cannot be reckoned with either party

—

A Liberal newspaper, published in a constituency the name of which is proverbially associated with unwavering support of that party, the Woodstock Sentinel-Review, recently published an article, the courage and forcefulness of which cannot be too strongly commended. To westerners, who have noted with a little concern the tendency on the part of strong and influential eastern Liberals to espouse ideas that were altogether out of keeping with the party's traditions, it is particularly welcome. We reproduce it herewith in full:

"A Liberal paper not long ago, discussing the development of combines under the present Canadian tariff, and the apparent indifference of the politicians at Ottawa, uttered a significant warning about the danger that the people will cease to care for a party which ceases to care for the principles on which it was placed in power.

"The value of such a warning should not be overlooked. The time is passing when any political party can expect to trust entirely to the party spirit to keep its followers in line. If the party distinctions are to be maintained then party principles must be something more than a mere name. The time will come when the party which seeks to justify or excuse the abandonment of its principles on the ground that its general record has been satisfactory will fail.

"It is coming to be generally recognized that brains and honesty and capacity for service are not distributed, bestowed or withheld in accordance with party distinctions. If parties are to be judged simply by their general administrative records, then it may appear to a great many of the intelligent electors that it can make but little difference which party is in power.

(Continued on page 4)

The Hospital Situation

The need for a far-sighted policy based on complete information respecting the problems involved.

Editor Saturday News.

Sir,—Your suggestion last week that the whole hospital question should be fully discussed before any action is taken committing the Board to any line of policy which might later be in any way different from that which they would follow and the public approve with all the facts before them, is so timely that I trust you will allow me space to state fully what appears to me a few of the considerations which should be kept clearly in mind if we are not to act in haste and repent at leisure.

As to the general policy which should be followed no one will dispute that it should provide efficiency and adequacy of hospital service, with true economy, reasonable permanence, and the possibility of expansion in future to meet new or growing needs, while avoiding expensive general alterations in the whole scheme. Without exception all authorities are agreed that for large cities a small central hospital (emergency branch) and a large outlying main building or group is the general scheme which is ideal for the hospital and its patients. Is such an ideal open to Edmonton? and if so will it be realized? or will it be frustrated by the obsolete antagonism between these two cities and the unwillingness of some of the medical men to sacrifice temporarily what seems to them their personal convenience in going to and from the hospital?

In general the functions of a public hospital are the care and cure of the sick "quickly, safely and pleasantly," the advancing of medical knowledge, the training of medical workers, both nurses and doctors, and the general education of the public in matters pertaining to health. In this last do we not see the prevention of sickness taking its place as even more important than the cure of the sick? Is not the highest usefulness of a fire department secured only when its experts are allowed to prevent as well as extinguish fires?

These are large matters and the business of a public hospital board is of the most momentous kind at such a juncture as the present when they must either "make a spoon or spoil a horn"—a magnificent horn surely, and a spoon that may serve us well and most variously.

Has the general public, clamoring for an immediate solution of the problem the Hospital Board has on its hands, even faintly realized how big that problem is? It appeared to the Board but a short time ago that it was a problem merely of choice of site; but while that is undoubtedly a big part of the problem it is by no means the main part. And frankly, is the Board fully prepared to act with confidence born of full knowledge and what is the true reason for their rather frequent changes of policy within the last few months? It is no aspersion on our Board to say that much remains to be learned about hospitals. Even experts are learning every day. Says one high American authority writing in a medical journal a year ago: "I spent last summer in Continental Europe studying hospital construction and found that a veritable hospital revolution is everywhere in progress, especially in Germany, but also in Italy and France, where it has developed during the past decade. It is no exaggeration to state that many of these modern hospitals are structurally a generation ahead of any at present existing in this country." Edmonton has in its hands at this moment the possibility of being not merely up-to-date in her hospital but actually years ahead of anything in Canada or she may go a generation behind the times.

Does anyone know exactly what are our pure hospital needs in Edmonton to-day, or in what respects those needs are already more than provided for —in how far we are over-hospitalized—and in what other respects provision is lacking? Or knowing these things can anybody tell us exactly how to fill out the actual deficiency and at the same time not sacrifice any of the associated interests?

I am informed by a medical man, who has recently studied the hospital history of Edmonton that there are now over 260 hospital beds in Edmonton. I cannot vouch for the correctness of the figures. In Italy a recent census shows that there is there one hospital averaging 60 beds for every 25,177 people—or in some localities 60 beds for 70,000 people. Now, our needs cannot be judged by Italy's; but at the other extreme I find an American authority stating that one bed per hundred of population is ample. Is Edmonton so unhealthy that an excess in number of hospital beds is not enough? True we have patients from outside our own 20,000 of population. I have a feeling that most of this breathless haste for increased hospital accommodation is due to an exaggerated idea of our real need and a lack of knowledge of our actual existing conditions. And until we are convinced that a thorough, intelligent, and unbiased study of the whole matter in all its bearings has discovered the sure solution that will stand abidingly firm our wisest plan is to wait. Festina lente-eile mit weile—make haste slowly, better stand still than move in the wrong direction.

Let us examine the financial importance of the present proposal which seems to be favored by the Board, viz., to spend $150,000 for a site and building in North Edmonton. What does this represent in annual outlay? Taking money at 5 per cent., the interest is $7,500. Allowing depreciation as equal to 5 per cent. of the value of the building and equipment and $15,000 as the value of the site which does not wear out and have to be replaced, we have $6,750.00 (5 per cent of $135,000) as the annual depreciation. At $100 a day for running expenses (which is an average for a good hospital of 60 beds) the running expenses are $36,500 per year. The total is $50,500. In other words the innocent-looking proposal to spend $150,000 in North Edmonton now, means an undertaking that represents annually $50,000! And yet the Board also proposes to look favorably on the union proposition too, in which its position would be much like the boy who joined two other boys in a joint picnic, but on the way to it tucked away the best things in his own basket.

Now my figures may be too high for the annual value of the $150,000 H.B. site hospital, but cut them in two and take the $25,000 to meet our necessities for this year, while we learn exactly the wise and abiding thing for the future. I think the $25,000 would also allow us to spend from $1000 to $5000 on a hospital commission or on the services of a hospital expert. The Board has nothing to lose and possibly very much to gain by judicious waiting. Meyer J. Sturm of Chicago, one of the most able hospital architects of the present day states: "In general it is a safe rule to follow that the time expended on preliminary plans should be sufficient to develop all of the ideas perfectly before the final plans are started. This will obviate the necessity for changes which are difficult to make as well as expensive, and will result in the completion of the plans and the consequent expediting of the erection of the building. . . The laboratory is one of the most important features of well-planned and properly conducted hospitals."

If I have succeeded in adding anything to the feeling that further deliberation is desirable I shall gladly discuss in your next issue the Union hospital scheme, and the difficulties to be met.

Edmonscona.

Edmonton, April 1.

The Saturday News

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There are some people who say we don't have any spring in Alberta. Well what was it that caused a Boston man to write as follows to a paper in that city after spending a few days in Edmonton in the early part of March:

"Certainly the weather has been milder for a fortnight than is usual in Ottawa, or Montreal, at the same season. The sweet, clear purity of the atmosphere is peculiar by a sort of pleasant brittleness. Conceive a meringue expanded to invisibility and impalbability, dilated millions of times, and with a certian reminiscence of sweetness in the air which it then permeates. Thus, if you have a vivid imagination, you may fancy you taste and breathe the Edmonton air of the past two weeks. It is indescribably delightful. Just to live in such a pure, clean, unperverted atmosphere a reasonable health-seeker might well forsake lower latitudes for this. Do not believe that I exaggerate the charm of Alberta air. To taste it is worth the whole price of admission."

Tennyson, Browning et al will have to take a back seat. Into what verses from older climes did the joyful abandon of the spring ever enter as into this prose-poem? Doesn't it make you feel that it is good to be alive in Edmonton?

—

There has been formed in Calgary a society of Sanitary and Moral Prophylaxis. Somebody's going to get hurt all right!

—

Still another bank is about to open in Edmonton. That's all very well as far as it goes, but what we need here is not more of the old-fogey institutions we are accustomed to in this country but a branch of one like the Atlas Bank, which is now being promoted in London, England. "Under certain practical and mutually profitable business conditions," says its advertisement, "this bank offers to open a limited number of accounts, entitled to immediate overdrafts, without security and guarantee; asking only for one reference as to respectability." The advertising, which is certainly rich in dictation states that immense profits will be derived for the shareholders, and "it will assist to a small extent to break down the cruel reign of the nefarious money-lender with nis cent. per cent. and his debt-collecting trickeries." Not content with current authorities, the Atlas Bank harks back to the days of Dean Swift, whom they say "was in the habit of money lending to struggling tradesmen without security and free of interest, and never was he defrauded or deceived."

What coud be simpler or more popular?

—

I am afraid that the Albertan idea of a christening is often very similar to that of the Highlander who figures in a story that recently appeared in the Old Country.

A minister, who was rather a pompous gentleman, came to the shepherd's house to baptize a child.

"Are you prepared?" he asked the fond parent.

"Ou, ay, munnister; I have got a gran' ham for tea."

"I mean spiritually prepared," thundered the cleric.

"Af coorse I am; oh, yes. I got twa bottles o' first-class whuskey from the inn," replied the imperturbable Celt.

—

If any Edmonton young lady meditates creating a sensation at Easter by appearing in one of the costumes that the fashion magazines would lead us to believe were in general use in the larger centres, she had better take warning from the following paragraph in a New York paper:

"Hey, pipe de sheath gown," squeaked an A. D. T. messenger as a young woman in a tight fitting black dress got out of an automobile in front of the Mills Building, at Broad street and Exchange place, yesterday afternoon. It wasn't one of the directoire sheath gowns, with the slit up one side, but it drew the crowd all the same.

"Nearly a thousand persons got there inside of two minutes and drove the young woman, much confused, into the building. When she wanted to get out again it was necessary to call police reserves to clear the corridors and get the crowd to move. The young woman finally reached her automobile under the escort of half a dozen policemen."

—

Chief Lancey gives me to understand that the Edmonton police force being but a small one he wouldn't guarantee to give any imitator of the New York demoiselle the protection that she would require should she undertake to startle Jasper Avenue.

—

If you want to become immortal, there is an easy method, as witness what the Gleichen Call had to say in its last issue:

"The Call was named by S. M Dickenson, the popular and genial clerk on the Blackfoot agency, who earned two years subscription for supplying the name—it was well worth it. Some months ago he renewed for another year in cash, which entitles him to a bunk in paradise with thornless roses for a pillow by night and nothing but gold to look at by day; and if we had our way he would wear diamonds the rest of his days."

—

The Saturday News has had the distinction of having two subscribers paid three years in advance. The editor informs me that only the excessive modesty of the gentlemen in question prevented his publishing their pictures on the front page decorated with halos of approved classical fashion.

—

APPLIED ASTRONOMY.

He took me out to see the stars,
That astronomic bore;
He said there were two moons near Mars,
While Jupiter had four.

I thought of course he'd whisper soon
What four-fold bliss 'twould be,
To stroll beneath that four fold moon
On Jupiter with me.

And when he spoke of Saturn's ring,
I was convinced he'd say
That was the very kind of thing
To offer me some day.

But in a tangent off he went
To double stars. Now that
Was most suggestive, so content
And quite absorbed I sat.

But, no, he talked a dreary mess,
Of which the only fraction
That caught my fancy, I confess,
Was "mutual attraction."

I said I thought it very queer
And stupid altogether,
For stars to keep so very near,
And yet not come together.

At that he smiled, and turned his head;
I thought he'd caught the notion.
He merely bowed good-night, and said,
Their safety lies in motion.

—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

—

The schooner Margaret had been cruising up the coast of Labrador, selling salt to the fishing settlements, and had finally put in at a far northern native village, according to a story that is circulating in the papers across the line. Many of the people hastened to go on board, so encased and "bundled up" in furs that the sailors could hardly tell one from another. One of the number, a young man, sat about with such a depressed air that the sailors began to speculate on the cause.

They all agreed that he was the most disconsolate-looking individual they had ever seen; for days they wondered what the matter was. Each one of them guessed, but all guessed wrong. They found out the sad story from a trader who visited them—a man who could speak the native dialect.

"Bill," said the captain to this trader, "there's a fellow sitting over there in the lee of the rail who is the sorrowfullest-looking human being I've ever seen. We all want to know what's the matter with him. Find out, will you?"

The trader was obliging, and for half an hour he jabbered back and forth with the native; and occasionally Bill smiled, and once or twice he laughed. At last he came back to us.

"It's quite a story," he said. "This young man was in love with a girl, but her father was set against the marriage. In that situation it is a common practice round here to steal the girl. Most all marriages here mean a seizure and abduction of the bride, so this young man prepared to run off with his sweetheart, no matter whether her family was willing or not.

"He got an outfit of dogs and sleds which cost him a good deal of money, and one night he went to her hut and crept in. He didn't want her to cry out, so he stuffed something in her mouth and tied her up with thongs until she and her furs looked like a bag of meal. Then he tied her on to the sleds and, rejoicing at his success, drove all night to get away from her father.

"When daylight came he stopped, untied the ropes and pulled the fur hood back from her face. And then came the sad part of the story. It wasn't the girl at all that he had stolen—it was her father!"

—

When the young woman with the imperious air entered the intelligence office the manager's desk was vacant. Half a dozen girls and women, says the Chicago News, were seated in chairs, evidently waiting for her return.

"I want a cook," announced the imperious young woman, after gazing about her for a moment.

Nobody spoke or manifested any particular interest.

After a long pause a faded blonde, sitting in a far corner of the room, said, "The lady iss not in now, but she koms pooty quick. I kess."

The young woman frowned, and tapped her foot on the floor impatiently.

"Isn't there any one to attend to me?" she asked.

No one answered, and the young woman frowned again and then surveyed the gathering.

"Can you cook?" she asked abruptly of a woman who sat near the desk.

The person addressed opened her long cloak and unloosed a pearl and gold lorgnette, from the bosom of a pearl and lace-trimmed, lilac silk waist. After examining the young woman with mild curiosity through the shrivelling medium of her glasses, she said in cool, even tones:

"No, I am afraid I cannot. Can you?"

The imperious young woman colored slightly.

"I beg your pardon," she said.

"Don't apologize," said the other, smilingly. "We are all likely to make mistakes. Before you told us what you wanted I really had an idea that you were looking for a place."

—

THE TWO PIPERS.

He was a long-haired bard,
His daddy was a plumber;
All winter long dad labored hard—
The son worked spring and summer.

And though he saw some verse in type
No payments came for days;
And dad makes more at laying pipe
Than the son makes piping lays.

—

She was lying on the couch in a state of prostration induced by a prolonged attack of toothache, and even the presence of her best young man failed to soothe her.

"Oh! oh!" she wailed. "Why wasn't I born without teeth?"

"Strikes me you were," remarked the young fellow sweetly.

The Scout of Spring

From the Catholic Standard and Times.

The child at the window turned away
With a parting glance at the leaden skies
And the look in the depth of his wistful eyes
Was hopeless and dull as they;
So came the night down, cold and gray,
When the unseen sun had set.
Cold as the ashes of yesterday
The morning breaks and yet—
The scouts of spring were abroad in the night!
I heard them riding the rain.
I knew the touch of their fingers light
As they swerved aside in their airy flight
And tapped at the window pane.
They swarmed like bees in the outer gloom;
I heard them whispering there,
And sensed them momently in the room
When their breathing tinged with faint perfume
The slumber-heavy air.
So hither and yon they danced and leapt;
And over one pillow they softly crept
And called to the wild
Young heart of the child
Till the little limbs stirred and the thin lips smiled
And he laughed aloud as he slept,
But there came a change at the wane of the night,
And came down from the hill
Where they'd long lain still.
The winds of winter rode forth in their might.
The spring outriders broke in flight,
And up from the east rose the morning gray
Cold as the ashes of yesterday.
* * * * *
"Wake!" cried the child beside my bed,
"Come to the beechwood. Sleepy head
Wonders await you there. See here,
Snowdrops! sweetest and first of the year,
Wake, for the spring is come," he said.
Gray is the morning, gray and cold;
Ah! but the depths of his shining eyes,
Blue as the heart of the violet, hold
Joy and the glory of summer skies,
And their secrets manifold.
—T. A. Daly.

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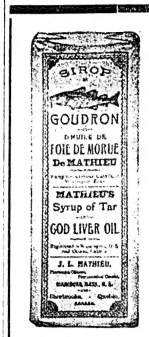

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OLD JAPAN AT EARLE'S COURT.

By Alfred Noyes.

Of old Japan—how far away'—
We dreamed—how long ago!—
We sat by twisted creek and bay
The blue plum-blossoms blow,
And dragons coiling down below
Like dragons on a fan,
And pig-tailed sailors lurching slow
Through streets of old Japan.

There in the dim blue death of day
The peach shall shed its snow,
And cherry-bloom be strewn astray
Till night be sweet enow,
Then lovers wander whispering low,
As lovers only can,
Where rosy paper lanterns glow
Through streets of old Japan.

—London Daily Mail.

—

I see that down at Palm Beach the darlings of society are dividing their time between Bridge and Picture Puzzles—it is to frivol. But I learn with astonishment that no newer form of amusement has been discovered than that stale diversion, cake-walking, the walking being "done" by paid negroes from New York music halls, the inference being, of course, that the very latest armor for women prevents their indulging personally in the rather rowdy pastime.

Time was when Palm Beach and other ultra smart summering places, with their absence of responsibility and care, their seeming gaiety and excitement, looked very good to me. I don't know yet if I couldn't with a big effort put in a day or two at their time-wasting, but Heavens what an existence! For you and me, sensible men and women, with our thousand happy, if responsible, domestic interests to ever contemplate looking forward to such a hideous harbor. Is this an end for which to strive, youth, the joy of living, present comfort, future happiness, to be the purchase price. Not for me and it please you. Indeed to-day, a day of rush and some worry, more distractions than I could be very comfortable without, and much hard work, I have been realizing that the happiest contented mortals on earth should be those who have, however tiny, a place to call home, a few kiddies, and some one to love, and love them.

Away with your Palm Beach and long-corseted women who can't walk without effort, a bas with an existence that is summed up with Picture Puzzles. Picture Puzzles! and a beautiful world with all its interests of heart and head to claim one. Are there among this giddy throng no lovers of books, no eyes that turn sea-ward beyond the stunning frocks that line its shore, no mother hearts that hunger for real nit doll babes, no house-mothers who would delight to be at home turning their dwellings upside down, for their spring cleaning?

Over the way my neighbor has spent the morning at this old domestic distraction. Curtains are blowing a glistening white on the lines, windows are being polished up and all about is an air of cleanliness and home loving. I like it all in spite of the obvious upset it means for the time being; for it stands for the joy and interest of labor, it means that at least, the woman who superintends it is doing something for the benefit of others, even if those others do belong to her, and protest as you like when all is said and done, only as we exert ourselves mentally, and physically and take thought of someone beside ourselves have we an atom of a chance of being happy.

—

Never a week passes but the unreality of people and books comes home to me. It may be a genius who points the moral or merely some casual woman who can't see why I won't buy some impossible wares, so that she may, absurd person, leave Canada and the West which she doesn't like, to go to the States perhaps, which, she admits, she knows nothing about

As to the geniuses, I never meet one without thanking the good Lord for making me a common every-day mortal. I like well enough to chat an afternoon away with an occasional aspirer after the impossible, but for steady diet put me next a man or woman of many interests, who has the same happy outlook on life.

I can't seem to catch up with geniuses, somehow. For instance we will say he paints, now where do I come in on this?

"Yes, I find people most unappreciative."

Me: "Oh, surely not."

Him: "But indeed yes, all they can talk of is money, money. I do not like mon-ey, I only live for art. I can't make the price of a meal ticket in Edmonton. But who cares! I shall probably starve."

Me (timidly): "But have you made any effort to raise any?"

Him: "Me, make any effort. The devil!"

After an hour of such inconsequential worry I'm free to admit I am ready for a month's afternoons with youngsters who prattle of Teddy Bears. Geniusee give me an indigestion.

—

"Improper Prue," one of the smart new books would also lead one to put forth a prayer for normal sensible situations in our books.

Briefly this "Improper Prue" was extremely beautiful and had three particular lovers. One of these was Sir Peter, a notorious libertine of 66, who behaved accordingly. Another was Sir Thomas who measured only 4 ft. 9 in. and was sadly deformed. The third was Capt. Jim Lascelles, who "loved the girl beyond rhyme or reason," was excessively jealous, and said, "To hell with Sir Peter!" on one of many tumultuous and unhappy occasions.

On one mad and merry day we have Sir Thomas shrieking "Sell yourself to me," followed by Jim Lascelles entering and flinging him "face downward" a small, writhing heap.

"Jim Lascelles did not weep, he stood there, hell in his eyes, rocking backward and forward, for a moment no longer sane; the foundations of the earth had slipped from under his feet and the lowest gap of all yawned beneath."

However, all's well that ends well. Next morning Sir Thomas murdered Sir Peter while all hands were out shooting, and several persons who stood between Jim Lascelles and a Dukedom by shipwreck and other opportune ways were all finished off, and after Jim and Prue were married Prue was a Duchess, since her husband was Duke Jim.

How long, oh how long!

(Continued on page) 8

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A complete line of face creams, cosmetics, hair goods, etc., on hand.
Your inspection is invited

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First Store North of Jasper Avenue
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that will satisfy in every particular. We want you to try them. Our . . . . .
Milk Bread
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They are just what you read about. We give particular attention to special orders.
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STORES
TWO STORES 51 Jasper W. 528 Jasper W.

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It will pay you to look these over before you JUDGE THEM
—Make Comparisons—bring your children and try them on. Then we feel sure you will be on our list as a
Satisfied Customer for Children's Wear
Children's Dresses, made from blue and white checked precail, French Style, nicely trimmed with piping, sizes 4 to 8 years.
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Children's Dresses, made of navy and white spot and stripe Crunn's Print, trimmed with white pique, sailor collar, belt and cuffs, ages 8 to 14.
Special at $1.50
50 only, Flanelette Gowns, white and pink only, ages from 3 to 10 years.
Special at 40c.

Jasper's Note Book

A Weekly Tale of Two Cities

One night last week a conference of the civic and university authorities was held in Strathcona for the purpose of discussing plans for laying out the university grounds. Saskatchewan Avenue, which runs along the river bank, will be graded and boulevarded, giving a splendid driveway by which to approach the site. All around the latter a roadway will be built with others intersecting the property. When all this is completed, there is little doubt that we shall have as fine a location for a great educational institution as is to be found the world over. With the university taking the advantage of its location on one side of the river and the ground about the capital buildings laid out according to the plans prepared by the landscape architect, who inspected them a couple of years ago, much will have been done to enhance the natural dignity of our river front.

If the turn of events hadn't brought the capital and the university to the banks of the Saskatchewan Greater Edmonton would have been in a pretty bad way for breathing-spots. Isn't it time something were done to provide these in other sections? The neglect of council after council of this very important problem is appalling. What about the hospital property in the east end? Is the city going to allow it to fall into private hands? What about the market site? Is it to be utilized for the market which is to be erected in the immediate future? To do so would be to throw one of the few remaining chances for helping out the central part of the city. The whole block should be kept for a city hall square.

When the time comes to erect a handsome civic building, place it in the centre of this square and lay the rest of the property out in such a manner as to set the new structure off and provide a small refuge from the dust and glare of the city street. Near this square, it could be arranged to have other public buildings placed. The post office is already opposite; the court house is going up less than a block away. Of course this general scheme will not appeal to those citizens whose ideas are so strictly utilitarian that appearances count for nothing with them. But as a matter of fact, looking at the question purely from the standpoint of dollars and cents the city would be a tremendous loser by failing to take advantage of the opportunity which now presents itself. Let the civic authorities show themselves men capable of looking a little distance into the future.

—

That always interesting bluebook, the annual report of the Mounted Police, refers to an industry in Edmonton's hinterland which should be taken note of. It is true that it is centred a distance of a couple of thousand miles away but it must be remembered that this city is "town" to a considerable stretch of country. I refer to whale fisheries near the mouth of the Mackenzie river, a trip to which will be the popular summer outing for Edmonton as soon as the A. and G. W. opens up for business. Inspector Jarvis who was in charge of the Mackenzie River detachment, estimates, from figures supplied by the captains of the whalers engaged in the industry, that there has been taken since 1889, nearly thirteen and a half millions of dollars in whale bone alone, without taking into consideration the oil; an average of $700,000 per annum, the whole of which has gone to the United States, no Canadian vessels being engaged in the business.

The statement is a simple question of arithmetic. The total catch has been, since 1889, as far as can be estimated, 1,345 whales. Averaging these at 2,000 lbs. per head of whalebone, with an average price of $5 per lb., the amount is $13,450,000.

It is generally thought that the whaling industry is decreasing, and it is a fact that not so much bone is taken out as formerly. This results, it is said, not so much from there being fewer whales as their being driven further away to the eastward, owing to the use of steam going whalers instead of the old sailing vessels. Fifteen years ago big catches were made around Herschell Island and the north of the Mackenzie, but now the ships are working more and more easterly towards Banks Land.

During the season of 1908 eight steam whalers from San Francisco were operating in Mackenzie River waters, and two of them spent the winter in the country, one at Herschell Island, and the other at Prince Albert Land. At Herschell Island, the favorite winter harbor of the whalers, the whaling companies have storehouses erected, and the officers of the ships have dwellings.

—

Why shouldn't Edmonton become a centre of the whalebone ndustry? It would be a much simpler proposition to bring the catches down the Mackenzie waterway than to have to sail around by Behring Strait. Once we are connected up with Fort McMurray it doesn't look as if it would be a difficult matter to make a start. However, I admit that whaling isn't exactly in my line and if there are obstacles in the way, I am perfectly willing to have some one point them out.

—

By the way, Miss Agnes Laut has hardly done the right thing in the first of the articles on her trip down the Saskatchewan, which appears in this month's Scribner's. In praising the Saskatchewan country she seems to deem it necessary to damn that of the Peace River. Despite immigration literature, she declares, there are only a few stretches of land in that much vaunted territory that are any good. Miss Laut has not visited the Peace River. On what, then, does she base her statements, which fly in the face of those which come from men like Prof. Macoun, Mr. Conray, Mr. Bredin, and others who have had the most ample opportunities of knowing what they were talking about. Some steps should certainly be taken to contradict Miss Laut's article. Coming from a Canadian writer, it is all the more unfortunate.

—

The building permits for March were $169,185 as opposed to $57,000 in March, 1908 and the prospects for a season of activity are very bright. Work has already been begun on the Hallier and Aldridge block opposite the market. The trend westward continues strong on Jasper Avenue. Preparations are being made for commencing operations on the large block to be erected by Mr. John Kelly on the north side of the street just bevond the Cecil Hotel, while at the corner of Seventh, where Hall's store now stands, another large block is to go up immediately.

The largest deal in real estate for some time past was the sale to Mr. Alex. Stuart, K.C., of London, brother of Mr. Justice Stuart of Calgary, of the Northwest corner of Rice and Howard, by Mr. Kelly for $18,000, which means $360 per foot front.

—

Another hotel change is announced, Mr. Rookes, the manager of the Alberta, purchasing the goodwill and furnishings of that house from Mr. York for $45,000. Mr. Rookes' many friends among citizens and among the travelliing public will wish him all success in his venture.

—

Steel-laying re-commeneed this week on the Grand Trunk Pacific and the transcontinental is expected to enter the city by June. With such an early start, it should not be difficult to cover the 100 odd miles from Wainwright on in that time. The bridge over Rat Creek is now completed and is built for double track. The Canadian Northern structure alongside has only a single track.

—

Among the earliest patrons of the G.T.P. from Edmonton will be the three hundred buffalo who are coming from Montana and three hundred and fifty of the 420, who have lead a happy and prosperous life at Elk Island Lake for two years past. The big buffalo park at Wainwright is now ready for their reception. It is seventy-four miles around and will undoubtedly prove one of the show spots of this part of Alberta.

—

To me, however, the little reservation where the buffalo now are, will always be more attractive. The park at Wainwright may be a better place of abode for a large herd of buffalo, but it can have none of the natural beauties of that which surrounds Island Lake. Seventy buffalo will remain there and with the elk, for the preservation of which the park was established, and other animals which will be found within its borders the nature-lover is bound to have a soft place in his heart for it.

—

The proposition of the residents of the East end of Edmonton that a high level bridge should be constructed from Cameron street is one that should not be entertained. The immediate need is a bridge at as central a point as possible between the two cities. Clover Bar is making a move to have a traffic bridge constructed somewhere near the G. T. P. crossing. This would give the easy entrance to Edmonton that is desired from that settlement.

—

The manager of the branch of the Bank of Ottawa, which is about to open in Edmotnon, Mr. A. H. Dickens, was for thriteen years located in Portage La Prairie, on leaving which city he and his wife received many tokens of the esteem and confidence of the citizens.

—

Congratulations are due Mr. T. W. Rourke, who has been promoted from the managership at Edmonton to that of New York branch. His successor here is Mr. Jean Revillon, who arrived recently from Paris.

—

Mr. D. S. Mackenzie, deputy minister of education, is again at his post after a lengthy stay in the Old Country, where he went to study educational conditions. He is now quite recovered from the serious illness with which he was stricken down while in London.

—

A new citizen who is expected to take a position of considerable prominence in local affairs is Mr. Joseph Clarke, who, for eleven years past, has been very much in the public eye in the Yukon.

—

Under the direction of Mr. A. G. Harrison, than whom no better man could have been secured for the work, preparations are well under way for the annual summer fair. That it will meet more fully the needs of the district than in other years is assured. Very wisely, it has been decided to make no display of grains and grasses. It is impossible to have an adequate showing of these at the end of June. Live stock will, therefore, be made the feature. The poultry and dog shows will also be encouraged as much as possible.

Note and Comment

(Continued from page 1)

"There is already an important body of the electorate, and it is constantly growing in strength and influence, that believes that so far as mere capacity for government is concerned there is little noticeable difference between the parties; if this body of the electorate is to show its preference for one party over another it must be because of some distinguishing party principle Of two parties equally capable of assuming the responsibilities of government one may favor a high tariff; the other a revenue tariff. Such a difference of policy would afford the intelligent electors a guide in the making of a choice. But if the party chosen should forget all about its principles after it felt itself securely in power, what right would it have to look for continued support from those who selected it because of its principles?

"It is well that the independent party papers on both sides of the party line should keep this aspect of the situation clearly before the eyes of the politicians. The party paper can render no better service to its party than by uttering a timely warning at the prospect of danger."

—

Such plain-speaking is very timely, for it is evident that if those who are working for a lower tariff at Washington succeed in their efforts, the Canadian Government will be called upon to make a definite choice between the two elements among its supporters. For instance, one of the proposals is that there should be reciprocity in agricultural implements. We all know how the West would feel in regard to this. Yet suppose the Government should make a move to meet it, it would undoubtedly have to face the opposition and possible break from the party of many of its supporters in eastern manufacturing centres. As evidence of this, take the following from the Brantford Expositor, as strong a Liberal journal as the Sentinel-Review.

"Canadian manufacturers of agricultural implements will not view with complacency the proposal that there should be reciprocity between the United States and Canada relative to the implements they produce. It can easily be understood that the Americans, who have already obtained foothold there, are extremely anxious to increase their sales in the Canadian west, but it is not by any means apparent that the Canadian manufacturers could find compensating advantage by increased sales of their wares in the United States. The Western Canada farmer would be glad, of course, to see all barriers down, but the Canadian government, which has to consider the interests of the entire country, rather than that of any part of it, will probably see to it that a sufficient handicap is kept on the American manufacturers to make it desirable for these gentlemen to establish branch establishments in this country."

—

The issue would be a plain one. Should the interests of the manufacturers be considered or those of the men, who are doing the primary work of nation-building by going out on the land in this western country and making it realize its possibilities?

—

Then there is the question of reciprocity in coal. If the duties were abolished on this commodity Ontario as well as other provinces would benefit tremendously. In Alberta the towns in the Crow's Nest are rejoicing greatly over the prospect. The economic advantage to both countries of being able to secure its fuel supply from the nearest point where coal deposits are to be found, regardless of which side of the international boundary line they are upon, hardly needs to be demonstrated. Yet here is a despatch from Ottawa:

"In the House of Commons last night Mr. D. W. McKenzie of Cape Breton North proposed a resolution urging that some action should be taken by the government to the end of conserving the home market to the Canadian coal operators. Having proven in his opinion the immense importance of the coal industry to the working people of Nova Scotia and the investors of all Canada, Mr. McKenzie urged that steps be taken to retard the encroachments of the American product in this country. The Government had come to the assistance of the steel industry by means of a bounty during its day of adversity and he hoped the Government would similarly come to the rescue of the coal workers."

A prominent coal operator in the course of an interview at Halifax said:

"West Virginian coal mined with cheap negro labor would be a strong competitor of the Nova Scotian article, and with the cheap water transportation from Newport News which that coal has, Nova Scotia coal could not compete with it. There is also a prejudice against our coal in the New England States which would handicap us."

—

Will the Government sacrifice the interests of the country as a whole to that of the mine-owners of Nova Scotia, simply because there is a prejudice against Nova Scotia coal in New England? If the prejudice has nothing to do with the quality of the coal, it should be easily overcome. If it has something to do with the quality, why should the industrial development of the rest of the Dominion be held back?

—

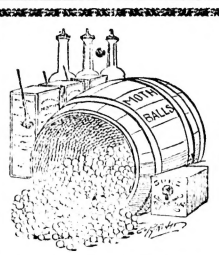
The argument regarding "cheap negro labor" should be noted. In the United States the tariff is maintained, so we are told, to protect the American workingman against "cheap foreign labor." As a matter of fact, the workingman who responds to such appeals is simply being made the dupe of the protected interests.

—

The departure of that stormy petrel of Canadian politics, Hon. Joseph Martin, from British Columbia to take up his residence in London, England, leads the Province to make some observations of decided value:

"While sharing the gratification which all must feel at the tributes accorded to Mr. Martin's real worth," says the Province, "we must confess ourselves unable to endorse many, we may say most, of his statements regarding Canadian political life. We do not think that

(Continued on page 8)



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MUSIC AND DRAMA

A stranger who happened to be present at Tuesday evening's recital at the Edmonton Opera House would be justified in concluding that whatever progress Edmonton had made along other lines it hadn't reached an advanced stage of musical culture. We know that this observation would hardly be just. There are many lovers of good music in Edmonton but for some reason the number of them who turned out to hear Miss Jenny Lerouge and her associates on this occasion was miserably small. A more genuinely artistic programme has seldom been given in the city. Miss Lerouge is a thoroughly accomplished pianist and both in her solos and in her numbers with Mr. Darimont her playing was a perfect delight. The Brahm and Chopin selections were revelations of technique, while that charming morsel of Godard's "En Courant" could not have been more gracefully given. Undoubtedly the most enjoyable features of the programme were, however, the duets with Mr. Darimont. The larghetto movement in the Handel number and the whole of the Beethoven were exceptionally fine. It is to be feared that the music-lovers of the city do not yet realize what an unusually talented violinist they have in their midst in Mr. Darimont. If they did, his name on any programme should be sufficient to crowd the hall.

Miss Ethel Webster's two solos, the first Gounod's "Compare these Jewels Bright" and the second Godard's exquisite "Angels Guard Thee," with violin obligato by Mr. Darimont, fully maintained the high standard of her work since her return from Europe.

—

Up to the end of last week eleven entries had been received for the dramatic contest in Earl Grey's competition at Ottawa. They were as follows: Dicken's Fellowship Co. of Players, Toronto; The Montreal Thespians, Montreal; The Walters Dramatic Company, Ottawa ("Eyes of the Heart" and "Op-'e-me Thumb"); Excelsior Dramatic Club, Montreal ("Arizona"); The Garrison Dramatic Club, Toronto ("Caste"); St. Catharines Dramatic Club, St. Catharines ("A Night 'Off'); The Thespian Club, Ottawa ("The Sacrifice of Silence"); The Garrison Dramatic Club, Ottawa ("The Second in Command;)" Montreal Amateur Dramatic Club, Montreal, ("The Bells"); Aubrey Stock Co., Montreal; Cercle Litterarire St. Henri de Montreal, Montreal ("La Princesse de Bagdad.)"

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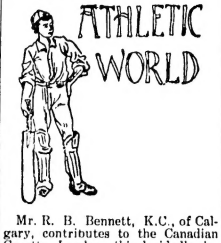
A correspondent writes from Pincher Creek under date of March 24: "The operetta "Sylvia" was presented to crowded houses in the Opera House. It was a local amateur "troupe" that put it on the boards. To say that it was the hit of the season is putting it mildly. The audience were simply delighted with the production. Much credit is due to Mrs T. J. Moore and to Mr. Glendower Allan for the task they performed in staging this play. Some idea of the work entailed may be gathered from the fact that there were forty raw recruits in the cast. A journey was made to Macleod where the piece was put on, on Saturday evening to a bumper house. All the aisles in the Macleod Opera House were filled and those who saw the production were astonished that a play like that could be staged so well by amateur artists from a small town. The advertising manager of a travelling show offered the management $1,200 for a week's engagement in East and West Kootenay. However, for various reasons the offer had to be declined."

—

Our twentieth-century dramatic critics are a cool, calculating set of individuals, with all due respect to the enthusiastic young scribes of the Edmonton dailies, as compared with their predecessors of a hundred years ago. A writer in the Manchester Guardian seems to think that it is largely due to their habit of "throwing it on" that there is so much talk about "the good old days" in the drama. Mrs. Siddon and Garrick are placed on a pedestal by themselves, yet the Guardian points out that while the former was still making her way into public favor, one of her strongest admirers, Lord Harcourt, wrote that "to say she was superior to Mrs. Pritchard would be talking nonsense, because I do not think that is possible." This is fine, unless we are to take it that Lord Harcourt's "I do not think that is possible!" is an echo of still earlier tradition. Boaden admits, in a comparison of Mrs. Siddons and Mrs. Crawford, that "scream for scream and distortion, the Alicia of Mrs. Crawford was many degrees more terrific than that of Mrs. Siddons." We should like to back Sarah Bernhardt's La Tosca, scream for scream and distortion for distortion, against anything Mrs. Siddons, Mrs. Pritchard, and Mrs. Crawford ever put in the way of the horrific, says the Guardian. What has happened that Mrs. Siddons contrives to swamp actresses admittedly her equal in many parts and able to concede the odds when it comes to distorting and screaming? It must be the work of those clumsy and extravagant fellows the dramatic critics. Listen to Hazlitt:

"Mrs. Siddons raised tragedy to the skies, or brought it down from thence. . . . It was something above nature. . . . She was not less than a goddess or than a prophetess inspired by the gods. . . . She was Tragedy personified. . . . She was the stateliest ornament of the public mind . . She was not only the idol of the people, she not only hushed the tumultuous shouts of the pit in breathless expectation and quenched the blaze of surrounding beauty in silent tears, but to the retired and lonely student, through long years of solitude, her face shone as if an eye had appeared from heaven; her name has been as if a voice had opened the chambers of the human heart or if a trumpet had awakened the living and the dead."

It was the fashion in those days for critics to descant upon the actress's physical perfections. Boaden declares that Mrs. Siddons' eye was like the diamond, and "singularly well placed." To an Irish critic she was the very "daisy, primrose, tube-rose, sweetbriar, furzeblossom, gilliflower, wallflower, cauliflower, auricula, and rosemary; in short, the Bouquet of Parnassus." It was this same gentleman who declared that the house to see her was crammed with hundreds more than it would hold, and that several ladies fainted with emotion before the curtain rose. Of Mrs. Siddons's Heromine Campbell says that she looked the statue to perfection, showing a beauty of head, neck, shoulders, and arms that Praxiteles might have studied. "The heart of everyone who saw her as she burst from the resemblance of sculpture into motion and embraced her daughter must throb and glow at the recollection."



Mr. R. B. Bennett, K.C., of Calgary, contributes to the Canadian Gazette, London, this decidedly interesting comment on the development of athletics in that part of the Province:

"When I located in Calgary eleven years ago the town had a population of about three thousand and was the centre of a ranching district. It depended for its existence to a considerable extent on the cattle owners and cowboys of the district, most of whom were Englishmen, and right good fellows they were. And British traditions permeated the social life of the community, which means that it was kept up to a high standard. Life in Calagry in those days reflected more or less the calm quiet of an English community; to-day it reflects the bustle and push of an enterprising American and Canadian settlement. Then, the sport of the people consisted principally of English games—cricket, polo and football; now, the American and Canadian influence is responsible for these games being superseded largely by baseball and trotting races. But British influence is by no means dormant in recreation. The district still boasts of the best polo teams, the members of which are principally Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen, many of whom are retired officers of the Imperial army. Lawn tennis is indulged in in the summer, and every year a curling 'bonspiel' is held in Calgary, which in the west is second only to that of Winnipeg. The difficulty in connection with ice sports in Calgary and Southern Alberta generally, however, is that there is no assurance of good ice, owing to the mildness of the climate. So much is this so, that during my eleven years' residence in Calgary I have not known one continuous week of sleighing. The interest in football is maintained, and the Caledonian team won the 'People's' shield and championship of Canada during three consecutive years. And to the British element in the population Southern Alberta owes much for that love of clean, honest sport, played for its own sake, which has been characterized and preserved. Particularly is this so in relation to polo, and also in the British settler's desire and efforts to prevent illegal shooting, hunting and fishing, and the preservation of the game of the country."

—

It is a pity that the primitive conditions described by Mr. Bennett couldn't continue. In what respect is Alberta the better for the athletic "development" of the past ten years?

—

Whether the Alberta cricket league comes to anything or not, a city league should be formed in Edmonton. An effort is already being made to bring about the organization of one. Teams have been promised from the St. George's Society and the Y.M.C.A., while others are expected to get into line. The game cannot flourish without such a league. There must be more matches played to sustain interest and the distances in Alberta are too great to secure these with outside teams, except at long intervals. The only remedy, therefore, is to have a half dozen teams within the borders of Greater Edmonton. But to give the schedule of games between these any great interest, it seems to me, the Edmonton Cricket Club, in which the best players in the city will be found, will have to be abandoned. Why not form an Edmonton Cricket Association instead? It would have complete control of the game in the city and undertake the organization and direction of the league. Each club in the latter would be given representation on the committee. The best players could thus be distributed among half-a-dozen teams for the purposes of the city matches. At the same time this association could arrange outside games for which it could pick an Edmonton team, utilizing the best players in all the different clubs.

The advantages of such a scheme are manifest. With half-a-dozen or more teams, the indifferent player will be given a chance to take part. The conditions under which cricket is usually played in this country do not offer him much encouragement to participate. But his interest is very essential to the success of the game. We cannot all be Trumpers or Frys but we can all take pleasure out of a few moments at the wicket and never cease to hope that some day those few moments will lengthen out till we have a big score to our credit. it is as a game to play, not as one to watch, that cricket should be encouraged. But with a keen contest for the league championship, the public would soon turn out in large numbers to watch the games and this counts for not a little progress.

—

We have lost a good athlete in the departure of Erice McLean of Strathcona for the coast. As a sprinter there was absolutely no one in his class hereabouts, as he demonstrated on several occasions last summer. He was one of the main supports of the Rugby Club and in lacrosse and baseball took his part. We haven't so many good sports of his character that we can spare him.

—Cover Point.

The Making of Taft.

If an architect were to sum up the building specifications and description of William Howard Taft the result, according to George Fitch in the American Magazine, would be like this:

"Dimensions: height, six feet; frontage, enough to allow seven watch pockets in a row across his vest; depth, about four times that of William J. Bryan; capacity, sixteen hours work a day.

"Foundations: Clear down to bedrock. College education, law school education, newspaper education, seven years in Cincinnati politics, without settling an inch.

"Ground plan: A ground plan of the President covers practically all of the planet. He was born at Cincinnati, but his large and rather deep foot tracks have been found in almost every civilized country. He is the first President who has taken his office after having circumnavigated the globe and played hop-scotch across its various zones.

"Material: Adamant and sand most peculiarly mixed with a fine brand of taffy guaranteed under the Government pure food law. Very little precious metal about the premises. Is said that on Taft's return from the Phillipines he did not have more than $5,000. He has held some Government position or other for twenty years and has always regarded a public office as an all day job instead of a money bin with a Welcome sign on it.

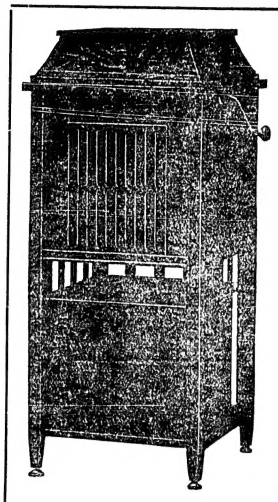
"Finish: Extremely plain. He wears clothes because that was the way he was brought up. His trousers are a vast bad land of hills and valleys, and his coat finding itself suddenly without backing and supported down near the pockets, droops away dejectedly at the front. In ducks he looks like an animated circus tent. In a frock coat he is, however, imposing—as imposing as four or five ordinary men.

"Color scheme: Mr. Taft is a white man with a strong sympathy for men of a darker color. The most patient and painstaking analysis fails to disclose any yellow in his makeup or any evidence of greenness in his past record. Being temperate, he knows nothing about Mr. Ade's celebrated pale gray dawn. Being by nature sunny, he is never blue. His clothes are black, his record is white and he himself, especially after a hard day's golfing, is a beautiful rose pink.

"Perspective: Not classic. Beginning generously at the bottom, Mr. Taft swells noticeably upward to a point just above the belt and then fades away radically to the chin, his vest being about as steep as an old-fashioned mansard roof. Separated from that vest only by a collar about as wide as a piece of baby ribbon rises the Taft head—a truly noble piece of architecture, built to fit the man.

"One does not wonder how Mr. Taft manages to store away all his knowledge; but rather thinks with awe of the amount of labor required to fill such a cranium storehouse. Without any particular preliminaries in the way of neck it rises straight from the collar to the temples and then sweeps away in a beautiful Oriental dome to the summit buttressed as substantial as the turret of a battleship. In all the vast expanse of face there are but three landmarks aside from eyes, nose and moustache. Two of these are deep furrows on the side of the nose which when curved upward and outward help make the Taft smile. The other is a dimple which shows where his chin used to be.

"Specifications: One steam heated glad hand, one large, wide meaty laugh, one re-inforced concrete backbone, one slow firing temper with check valve and automatic thermostat, one extra capacity non-causizable digestive system, one poorly fastened head of hair, rather light, slightly grayed; one light brown extra width mustache, undomesticated; two blond eyes between narrow lids; two chins; one extra width 64 candle power smile all day schedule; one hot air plant, very moderate size."



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All Cash—No Credit—Same Price to all.

We feel confident the public will see the point, viz., by doing away with the credit system and no delivery, the business can be operated at just one-half of the expense; therefore we can supply you with the same quality of meat at a much lower price and still have a fair margin of profit for our investment.

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Alberta Sunshine

As a Source of Health.

A paper by Dr. Wm. Dixon, of Wetaskiwin, in which he dispels some illusions regarding the effect of climatic conditions in the Province. It is excessive work, accompanied by worry and strain that plays hob with our nervous system.

Alberta, situated as it is on the eastern slopes of the Rockies, presents an elevation varying from 2000 to 4500 feet above sea level. It is marked notably by great dryness of atmosphere, a large amount of sunshine and a small amount of rainfall. The seasonable variation is not very great, but in the southern portion there is often a very high daily variation of temperature, also a marked tendency for high winds.

The high altitude, the great quantity of sunshine, with low humidity and tendency for winds, causes the electrical potential to be greatly increased. The winds set up an electrical tension by their friction upon the earth, and the dry air being a poor conductor, the electrical potential set up in this way cannot neutralize itself by meeting the potential of the opposite kind in the higher regions of the atmosphere, consequently, all bodies upon the earth's surface are at a high electrical tension, and the nervous system of animals is constantly keyed up to a more or less exalted degree. Respirations are stronger and deeper; the pulse is slightly quickened, metabolism and all physical functions are increased. The individual who has his nervous system tuned up to this high pitch is inclined to be more active in his movements, and he requires more sleep and relaxation.

Last year Rev. Chas. Huestis of Red Deer, read a paper before the medical council, of Alberta, entitled "The effect of sun light on the white man —with special reference to conditions in the West." The contention of this paper was that after years of this stimulation there would be a resulting depression and exhaustion. He even expressed the opinion that many diseases, whose origin is obscure may be laid in this country to lack of nervous vigor due to excessive sunlight. The adult male is able to bear the sunshine for some time, but women go down under it faster, while children suffer from it both directly and indirectly, for children begotten by parents whose nervous force has declined cannot be a vigorous race. Nature balances accounts by producing sterility in the third generation.

He also expresses doubt whether the white man will ever,permanently colonize the West.

You can readily see, then, the importance of the subject under discussion. Is our nervous vitality being exhausted? Are we degenerating? If Rev. Mr. Huestis is right, then we are only wasting our time by living here. Each year we are becoming weaker and less capable. But, I think that we can prove that he is wrong, and that the climate of Alberta is rejuvenating, and invigoratng, instead of depressing and degenerating.

There is a widespread impression among the laity, that this country is hard on nerves. It remains for us to prove, or see whether this nervousness, as it is called, is a state of stimulation, or a state of depression, and whether or not it is injurious.

Medical authorities state that no nervous matter was ever too excitable, that it is its business to be excited. In over-excitability the race horse differs from the jack ass.

The more excitable we are the higher and quicker our life.

Will this over-excitability in time lead to exhaustion?

Dr. Lincoln, of Calgary, gathered statistics from about 225 physicians, practicing in the Province, with the result that 347 cases of nervous weakness were reported, about an average of four cases to each doctor reporting, and these men have practised in the Province from one to thirteen years. Eight reported that they had never had a case.

These figures show that a form of nerve weakness, severe enough to cause the patient to seek the aid of a physician, is a very rare disease. One man who has practised thirteen years doing a large general practise, says he has only seen two or three cases in all that time.

The causes of nerve weakness are hereditary tendencies and excessive work, or more correctly strain, for it is doubtful if work of itself ever injured any man. But excessive work accompanied by worry and strain, is what plays horse with our nervous system.

In this country, where the majority of people are here for the purpose of worldly gain, and straininge very fibre in their anatomy to obtain it, at the same time depriving themselves of many of the comforts of life, which they have formerly been accustomed to enjoy, one would not be surprised if he found a predominance of nervous wrecks But we have already shown that it it is a very rare disease. Does this not prove that the climate of Alberta is not a degenerating influence? Again if sunlight is the creative agent there would be more cases in the country than in the towns and cities. But in the statistics before mentioned, there were 84 from the country and 252 from the towns. Which proves that Mr. Huestis' theory is not backed up by facts and that we can still rely on the old adage, "Five hours sunshine is worth a bottle of medicine."

Mr. Huestis also stated that it was doubtful whether persons of a very light complexion should attempt to live in the West. To be a true inhabitant of Alberta, one needs to have the complexion of a Cree or a Stony. The statistics in this regard gave 159 brunettes and 158 blondes. When we consider the large foreign population, with their fair hair, one can readily see that the blondes instead of being more susceptible, seem to suffer less frequently than brunettes.

Thus far we have corsidered the effect of the climate on the healthy individual. Let us now try to find out why it is people come to Alberta for their health.

As I have already stated, we have a high altitude. This means a rarified air. The rarified air means that we must breathe more of it to get a sufficient quantity of oxygen. To get more air we must work harder. Now we all know the greatest cause of consumption (outside of hereditary tendencies) is laziness of breathing. The upper portions of the lungs—the hardest to fill—do not get enough exercise to keep them in a healthy condition, and this is where we find the commencement of fully nine tenths of all causes of consumption. Now with the rarified condition of the air, the individual must of necessity get the amount of oxygen nature demands. In doing so he also gets the accruing benefits.

By contrasting the climate of Alberta with that of Ontario, or the eastern or middle States, we find the air here dryer, and the weather is not so changeable. Consequently there is not so great a tendency to catch colds. This is another great boon to the consumptive, because each cold he catches is a source of irritation, and tends to spread the disease deeper and deeper.

Then the sunshine, which is the greatest healer and the greatest germicide, is here in abundance. Very few places in the world have the amount of sunshine that we have in Alberta. I consider its influence one of the greatest curative agents we have.

Asthmatics reap probably more benefit than any other class. Very few come here who are not greatly benefited or cured. I take this to be due to the dryness of the air and the stimulative before mentioned.

In conclusion I may say that if any of you have had your minds disturbed by statements regarding the bad effects of Alberta's climate, you may set aside your fears. Up to date we have not been able to find sufficient statistics to make even the semblance of the case. Do not be afraid of the sunshine — do not be afraid of outdoor life, whether you be a blonde or brunette. But, I would advise the men —it would not do for me to even suggest styles for the ladies— to wear a head covering and not to follow the fad of going bare headed, even if the fashion is set by our neighbors to the south.

The Lady with the Paper

An uncertain proposition when her curiosity is aroused.

"Whatever tack a woman takes," said Uncle Henry with conviction, and a curious glance through the crack of the door into the next room, "you can bet it means something entirely different from what you think it does. That may be a rough way of getting at it, but I'm in no mood for gems of thought.

"When you see a lady person tearing down the street early in the morning, is she going on an errand? She is not. Else it would be her husband who would be doing the rush act. She is going down town shopping with just five cents car fare in her kick. They fool you.

"Ever come home at night, slough off your shoes, adorn yourself with your old slippers and sit down some place where you can get your feet up and start in to spend a pleasant evening at home? Make the most of it, son, the best of us are likely to be married up any time.

"First the little bright eyes who took you away from your mother will choose out the particular paper you want to get the fight news out of. Then she'll read all the pictures out loud.

"Oh," she'll say, "here is a picture of the woman whose husband beat her to death every week last Saturday, and now she's wearing those old style sleeves and they won't let her see her baby,' she says. 'What is it about her?' she says, 'I didn't see it about her before,' she says

"Sure she didn't see it about her before. She don't know what she's seeing now. And she's asking me. 'What is it all about her?" and, by gracious, she's got the paper right there.

"She could read the story if she wanted to know. She's looking at it. But, take it from me, son, if I don't make some kind of a noise intended to sound like conversation —she, you wouldn't understand. You haven't been married yet.

"Well, sir, I dig into my paper for a minute and just get started on the schedule or batting average or something important when she says, Oh-h-h,' she says. Look out for 'em when they say 'Oh-h-h,' like that It's a beginning of something. Always beware of a woman lady when she's about to begin something. She takes your life in her hands every time. Sure, she does.

"Oh-h-h,' she says, 'isn't that spring model one piece suit just a perfect dream!' Yes—it isn't. It is just another thing you've got to look at. And smile, gog-gone you, smile. You better had smile. They like you to smile when you talk—when you're reading.

"Then she'll keep still just long enough for you to get started on something else and all of sudden she'll read out some kind of a word like reporters use when they want to say something the worst way. 'Henry,' she'll say, 'what is ——?' whatever the word is.

"She won't read up to it or away from it. Just bats it out all by its little self. Nobody can tell what a word means that way. Words don't mean anything alone. You ask somebody who's studying French and see. 'Er, what was the context?" they say, like that. Even then some of 'em can't tell you.

"I'm no human encyclopeadia with a telephone book attachment, but I know a pretty good deal of that. Of course I can't always think of it. But I know it just the same. Lots of folks can't spell things anyhow, and sometimes they're the most intellectual in the family.

"Well, sir, I was ruminating and that, you understand, is some word itself. I was ruminating the other day on the proper sort of plans and specifications to get my she to sort of let me alone. And between you and me and the town pump, I ran across a pretty swell little frameup. I sort of gave it a little try out the other night. Yes.

"We, that is to say the household and little I, were sitting down among the papers after dinner the other evening and I says to myself, say I: 'The next time she springs something on me in the way of answers to correspondents work, that is anything that I know,' says I to myself, 'I'll stop reading and tell her about it. I've got a premonition that if she thinks I know these things she'll let me alone,' I says.

"So I kept reading along nice as pie saying 'Yes' to the pictures and 'No' to the advertisements, when by and by I noticed she wasn't having much to say at all. After about five minutes things began to occur. 'Henry,' she says, 'what does angina pectoris mean?' she says, turning over the paper and beginning to read something else on the other side.

"You know me, son: that was my chance. That some word, angina pectoris. It had me for a minute. 'Very unusual,' says I, sparring for wind. 'Read the sentence it was in,' says. She turns back and reads about some man dying of angina pectoris. Say, in an instant I had it. I tell you, son, when you get well founded in the classic it never leaves you. All right.

"Rosebud,' I says, laying down my paper and putting on a sort of distant first message to Congress look, 'Rosebud,' I says, 'the word you mention is the name of a patent medicine,' I says. 'It is more properly spoken of as the Angina Bros. Pectoris, or Pectoral, which means the same thing. A pectoral is something made from cherries,' I says, 'that cure you of a hacking cough,' I says. 'I know these Angina Bros. well,' I says, 'and their Pectoris is likely to kill anybody,' I says. 'They are a Greek firm,' I says, 'and not the original men that years ago used to make it,' I says.

"Say, son, I wasn't looking at her of course, but she was just as still. Almost too still for a lady woman wife, but I could see that she was plumb interested in what I was telling her, because she wasn't interrupting me. 'Women are great on taking quack medicines anyhow, and that sort of thing interests 'em.

"Yes,' I says, 'many men die from taking this so-called Angina Pectoris every year,' I says, 'and you will be interested to know that ——'

"Henry,' she says, all of a sudden, I dont' see why you will persist in bothering me. Can't you see I'm reading?'

"Honest, can you beat it? Can you come up alongside so you make believe you are in the same race? No you can't. You're a man, you are. But my wife is a regular kind of a wife woman. She can beat it. She beats anything."—New York Sun.

THE RULING PASSION.

Laden and perspiring stranger—Could you kindly tell me how far it is to the station?

Sportsome Native—About a full drive, two brassies, and a put.—"Punch."

Your Baby's PHOTO

This issue of the Saturday News contains the first of the series of baby's photos. This is no competition. We are printing them simply to add another interesting feature to our paper. We would like to further impress on those intending to take advantage of this offer that they should make an appointment with Mr. Burk, the official photographer, in advance, as the children get restless when waiting their turn, and good results cannot then be obtained.

Your baby's photo will be taken entirely FREE and each mother given one copy at

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The Dominion Forest Surveys

"The Dominion Forest Reserves are intended to preserve and produce a perpetual supply of timber for the people of the prairie, the homesteaders' needs being of first importance. They are not intended to furnish wood for the lumber trade. Hence the policy of the Department is favorable to small mills rather than to large ones which need large tracts of forest and manufacture lumber beyond the needs of the settlers." In these words Mr. Knetchel, Inspector of Dominion Forest Reserves, defines the objects for which the Dominion forest reserves are being managed in Bulletin No. 3 of the Forestry branch of the Department of the Interior.

Mr. Knetchel gives a list of the reserves, with the dates when they were set aside. The aggregate area of all the Dominion forest reserves is 16,312 ¼ square miles, divided as follows:

Manitoba (6 reserves) 3,575¼ square miles.

Saskatchewan (4 reserves), 740 square miles

Alberta (6 reserves) 9,702 square miles.

British Columbia, (10 reserves), 2,295 square miles.

Forest fires furnish perhaps the most serious problem met with in the administration of the reserves. This problem is more serious than in Eastern timberlands, Mr. Knetchel is convinced. The amount of rainfall and the number of rainy days is much less in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba than in the East. This Mr. Knechtel proves by figures taken from the "weather man's" report, giving these facts for Calgary, Qu'Appelle, Winnipeg and Toronto. Figures prove, too, that the wind, on the average, blows at twice the rate in Winnipeg that it does in Toronto.

The reserves are under constant patrol, summer and winter.

In 1903 only two serious fires occurred on the reserves. Of these one on "The Pines" reserve, near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, burned over 22 square miles, but destroyed no valuable timber. The other, in the Turtle Mountain reserve, burned over 28 square miles, mostly covered with grass.

In both fires, however, considerable damage was done to young growth.

Various other methods of protection from fire, such as the burning of fire lines and the ploughing of fire guards are also mentioned. Roads across the reserves and along their boundaries are also being constructed, largely with this end in view. One hundred and fifty miles of such roads were made last year.

Grazing on the reserve is another problem that has been considered. This will be allowed, under certain restrictions. Why should good grass be allowed to go to waste the Inspector asks? The cattle, too, will eat up the dense growth of grass and pea-vine that is found in many places on the reserves. This, if dried, would furnish the best kind of fuel for forest fires. Moreover, cattle, in going to water, make for themselves narrow paths, which will act both as a check to the flames and a point from which to backfire.

On many of the reserves large areas have been destroyed by fire. Experiments are being carried on with a view to the reforestation of these. Sowing the seed of the trees, rather than the far more expensive planting, is favored.

During 1908 a number of squatters were removed from the Riding Mountain and Turtle Mountain reserves. Despite the delicate nature of the work, those who were removed are so well pleased with the change that all have made affidavit to the effect that they have been well treated and are well pleased with the change.

The boundaries of the reserves are being marked and timber surveys conducted on them with the object of ascertaining the present amount of timber and the annual growth.

How much timber is there on the reserves? Inspector Knechtel gives an approxiamte estimate as follows:

On the Manitoba reserves 602,933,000 bd. ft. of saw-timber and 6,250,000 cords of fuel wood

On the Saskatchewan reserves 55,000,000 bd. ft. of saw timber and 690,000 cords of fuel wood.

On the Alberta reserves 3,402,000 bd ft. of saw timber and 54,220,000 cords of fuel wood.

On the British Columbia reserves, 60,000,000 bd. ft. of saw timber and 6,000,000 cords of fuel wood.

The species of timber growing on the reserves, with their average size and condition, are also stated.

The Bulletin gives in full the regulations for homesteaders' permits for cutting on the reserves. Proposed regulations for portable mills (the only kind to be allowed on the reserves) are also given. Regulations similar to these have already been imposed on one mill in the Cypress Hills (Alta). reserve this winter and have apparently been a success.

A few words are also given to the use of the reserves as pleasure resorts.

The Bulletin is illustrated with a number of cuts. Copies may be obtained free from R. H. Campbell, superintendent of forestry, Ottawa.

Got His Half All Right

(From Success)

"Got any work this mornin', Mistah Boyd?" asked old Billy Bulger, safe in the knowledge that no work would be entrusted to him.

"No," was the response; and then, before Billy could ask for the customary contribution, "but wait a minute. Lawyer Phillips has owed me $20 for twenty years. Collect it and I'll give you half." The merchant, knowing how bad was the debt, winked at a waiting customer.

The old man found the lawyer in the middle of a group of prospective clients and influential citizens. Thrusting through the group he called, in stentorian tones:

"Mistah Phillips, suh!"

"Well, queried the lawyer, much annoyed.

"Mistah Boyd done tell me that you've owed him $20 for about a hundred years, and kin you pay him, suh."

The lawyer hurried to Billy's side.

"You idiot," he said sotto voice, "do you want to ruin my business? Here!" and he thrust a ten dollar bill into the old man's hand.

Back to the merchant toddled the old man.

"Well, Billy," said the merchant, "did you get it?"

The old man grinned.

"I got my half, all right," he chuckled; "but you'd better look out when you go back to get your half—he's right smart hot over it, suh!"

AN EASY VICTIM

Mr. Rundlett lowered his newspaper and spoke over the top. "I have contributed to your fresh-air fund, free-ice funds, sick-baby funds and pure-milk stations, but I must say that if I had been consulted, which I was not, I should have drawn the line at taking strange children into our home."

"Not children," Mrs. Rundlett corrected. "A child."

"I draw the line, too, at walking the floor with at nights," he continued, with some heat.

"She is seven years old," Mrs. Rundlett quietly remarked.

This was not the comforting assurance that might have been expected.

"The very age for plunder," said Mr. Rundlett, gloomily. "There won't be a flower left in the garden or any fruit on the trees."

"She seemed a very quiet little thing when I saw her yesterday in town," said Mrs. Rundlett. "Her mother said she was good."

Mr. Rundlett smiled pityingly at this. "Don't you know that foreigners think no amount of earthly glory can approach that of 'doing' a Yankee?"

"Her eyes are dark and she has very pretty smooth brown hair," said Mrs. Rundlett, with apparent innocence.

For an instant Mr. Rundlett wavered. His wife's eyes were brown, and he had a weakness for sleek heads. But he soon recovered himself.

"I know them at seven," he said, darkly. Then, after vainly waiting for his wife to say something, he said there was just one thing: that child must be kept away from him.

This was at breakfast. When Rundlett came back in the afternoon Mrs. Rundlett was not in. She had been called to a neighbor's, the maid said

"The little girl is in the library, sir," she added.

Rundlett bounded into the library, expecting to catch the child "messing" with his things. She was reading, but she got up politely when he entered.

"She told me to stay here. She gave me this book."

The child's voice was small and sweet, and Rundlett said afterward that it was the first thing that impressed him in her favor. When she had finished speaking she sat down and began to read. She was a pale little thing. Looked peaked, Rundlett thought, and wondered vaguely if children like that fared poorly—or was it all talk? He hoped his wife had given her something substantial for luncheon.

Presently Rundlett noticed that the child's book was closed, and her hands were crossed on it. She sighed once, deeply, and Rundlett wondered what kept his wife. The least she could do would be to make the child happy after she had got her there.

"Lonesome?" he questioned.

"A little.

"Why don't you come over here?" Rudlett said, most unexpectedly to himself.

The child rose, and took a step toward him.

"She said I wasn't to bother you. Am I troubling you?"

Rudlett shook his head. He was deeply wounded.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked.

"Yes, sir," said the child, but without advancing.

"She told me."

"What else did she say?"

"That you wasn't 'customed to little girls, and I must be very, very careful—"

"Or I'd bite?"

"She didn't say that," said the child, in her soft, serious voice.

The little girl moved slowly forward, studying Rundlett's face all the time. "If you really think you'd like to have me—" she began.

Rundlett put down his book, and opened his arms.

A smile broke over the little girl's face, but still she stood where she was, a timid but valiant figure. Then, greatly to the surprise of both, Rundlett swooped down and gathered her close. A moment later she looked up shyly.

"My name is Isabel," she said. "What is yours?"

Rundlett looked bewildered. "Mine is Uncle Charley," he said, at last, and with some conviction.

Later in the evening Mr. Rundlett told Mrs. Rundlett that children took to him naturally. "They know who really likes them," he said, and Mrs. Rundlett smiled softly.

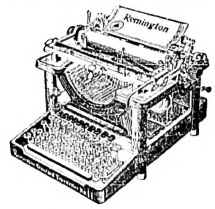
—The Youth's Companion.

A COMPENSATING BLESSING

Bob—Yes; since the Smiths lost their money I have stopped calling there.

Ethel—How good of you! That ought to cheer them up a whole lot.—Judge

DON'T WISH FOR THE BEST, GET IT



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The Position of the Medical Association.

Editor Saturday News.

Sir,—It is certainly desirable that the public should have as full information as possible bearing on hospital matters now so acutely before the public attention and if a publicity campaign can be carried on in the right spirit only good can come of it, as it will help very much towards securing a healthy and intelligent public sentiment to support whatever policy is found to be dictated by sound business judgment based on a full consideration of all the relative facts.

A brief statement of the position of the Medical Association in this city in regard to the hospital policy, including choice of site, may be an acceptable contribution to your proposed fund of information for the court of public opinion. It is likewise due the Association itself that its attitude on this matter should not be misunderstood either now or in the future when events make clear to everybody the wisdom or otherwise of the course that will be pursued by the City Hospital Board.

At the February regular meeting of our Medical Association the question of hospital site was raised, and in order that the Association might formulate an intelligent opinion in the light of events that had occurred since the 19th street site was chosen two years ago, and in the light of future probabilities which can now be more confidently fore-shadowed than was possible two years ago, a committee was appointed to bring in a report at the March meeting. The members of this committee on studying the matter were convinced that the location of the site was secondary to the larger question of the general policy which should be adopted by the Hospital Board, and the following report was made to the Association:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LOCATION OF HOSPITAL SITE.

To the President and members of the Northern Alberta Medical Association:

Your committee, appointed at the February meeting to report on the selection of a site for the new Public Hospital, beg leave to submit:

1. The location of the hospital site should be chosen having due regard to:

(a) Obtaining the best hospital possible.

(b). Relating it to the abiding future conditions and development of the city rather than to the present passing phase of the growth and needs of the city.

(c) Securing the greatest value for the money expended on site, building and equipment.

(d) Ensuring the necessary upkeep and expansion of the hospital for the future.

2. In order to get the proper perspective of the present conditions, the question should be looked at from the standpoint of at least ten years hence by which time we venture to predict that:

(a) Edmonton and Strathcona will be united into one municipality.

(b) Quick and easy access will be had to and from all parts of the Union city by a frequent street car service and high level bridges.

(c) Our city population will have increased to 65,000 on a basis of 10 per cent annual increase.

(d) The hospital will receive patients from a very large population outside the city, drawing from an area with over 100 miles radius, including many new towns served by several railways centering in Edmonton.

(e) The Provincial University will have a strong medical faculty and will be handsomely endowed.

3. The present offers a unique opportunity to secure for this community the most advantageous hospital facilities at the earliest possible time and at a minimum cost of establishment and annual up-keep, this opportunity lying in the following circumstances:

(a) The city of Edmonton is about to replace its present hospital with a new one.

(b) The city of Strathcona is about to do likewise.

(c) The Provincial University is ready to join with these two cities in a union hospital which, in its size, equipment and all its appointments, would be unequalled this side of Toronto and which would give our city a hospital service very greatly superior to anything possible in a simple city hospital.

If it is deemed wise to build a small hospital at once in Edmonton, either on the present site or elsewhere, it would seem wise to enter now into this larger plan and to make the Edmonton Public Hospital an integral part of the latter so that it would ultimately be a branch of the Union hospital and constitute emergency provision for the larger industrial population in the north and east parts of Edmonton.

4. In view of the above cited facts and probabilities, which are almost certainties, your committee believe that the choice between an Edmonton Public Hospital and a Union hospital is overwhelmingly in favor of the latter. We therefore beg to recommend that the Board of the Edmonton Public Hospital be urged to merge their hospital into a union hospital scheme, if at all possible, comprising Edmonton and Strathcona city hospitals and the Provincial University hospital, the site of the said Union hospital to be chosen by a joint board or committee representing the Edmonton and Strathcona hospital boards and the Provincial University.

Respectfully submitted.

After being very fully debated pro and con, the report was adopted in full without an opposing vote in an unusually largely attended meeting of the Association. A committee was then appointed to present the views of the Association to the Hospital Board at a special meeting held for this purpose. The above report was there presented together with verbal statements of the reasons which had governed the decision of the Association.

In conclusion, I only ask your open-minded readers to re-read the above report, weigh and accept or reject it part by part, not as the opinion of the Medical Association but solely on their own judgment of the truth or falsity of the premises set out, and of the deductions made.

Yours sincerely,

D. G. Revell.

Edmonton, March 31.

Note and Comment

(Continued from Page 4)

he intended to be unfair in his denunciation of politics in Canada; we regard it as impossible for him, from the very constitution of his mind, influenced by his stormy and frustrated career, to take a fair view of conditions as they exist.

"With undoubted ability for affairs and with integrity of purpose, which no one will deny, Mr. Martin possessed defects of temper and defects of training which made him almost impossible as a member of any government and a constant source of disquiet, if not of confusion, as a member of a party. He did not know what compromise meant, he was a stranger to moderation He could not realize that others had views and convictions which might not concide with his own and he was not prone to regard those who disagreed with him as hostile to him and as hostile from ulterior motives."

Mr. Martin is not without his counterparts all over the country. The defects which the Province calls attention to in Mr. Martin render it quite impracticable to trust important public responsibilities to them, despite their general ability and unquestioned honesty.

One of the most disturbing revelations in connection with the Kinrade case in Hamilton is that of the number of crazy people there are at large At the first of last week no less than twelve "confessions" had been received by the police, the following being a sample:

"Dear sir,—You needn't bother looking any more for the murderer of Ethel Kinrade. I done it, and you can't catch me. I fired eight shots at her and got away."

There was no signature to the letter, and it was postmarked Montreal, so if the officers were inclined to take the matter seriously they would have some difficulty in locating the writer. All of these letters have been anonymous and have come from as many different points in Canada and the United States. There is one postmarked Toronto, one from Detroit, one from Buffalo, one from New York, and others from smaller places This constitutes one of the most curious features to date of the great mystery tragedy of February 25th. It indicates in some measure the hold the murder has taken on the public mind. If no solution is arrived at, Hamilton will receive an unenviable reputation. This is the third murder that has taken place in or near that city within a few years which has remained a mystery.

It has paid the town of Lloydminster to be on the fence in politics, though this phrase is not used in its ordinary meaning. Part of it is in Alberta and part in Saskatchewan and now it has the distinction of having one of its citizens in the Legisiative assembly of each Province.

BORN.

Riley—On Friday, March 26th to Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Riley, 240 Eighth street, a daughter.

EDMONTON COUNCIL OF WOMEN.

On Thursday, April 22nd, a general meeting of the Local Council of Women will be held in the Y.M.C.A. hall at four o'clock.

The ladies of the art booth in aid of the Hospital Fair will give an At Home in the schoolroom of All Saints' church, on Thursday, April 15th.

We are advised that the Imperial Bank of Canada has opened a branch of the bank at Lethbridge.

AT THE EMPIRE NEXT WEEK.

For the week of April 5th, the management of the Empire Theatre offer a bill that is far in advance of anything they have as yet presented. The feature act is that presented by "Huntress," a female impersonator and drapery dancer. This act is one of the most beautiful on the vaudeville stage to-day. Gorgeous costumes, electrical effects, and scenery, of which he carries almost a carload, together with his clever impersonations of famous American stage celebrities, all go to make this act the greatest attraction yet presented in Edmonton. His transformation scenes, and the way he makes up in full view of the audience, are alone worth the price of admission.

The Aerial Wilsons, in their comedy acrobatic and revolving ladder act are a distinct novelty. In some of their stunts they make the audience hold their breath. They will certainly supply some "thrillers."

Another very clever act in the acorbatic act is that of the Smi Letta Sisters, wire performers and contortionists. Their work is very highly spoken of as wire performers and as contortionists they are clever as anyone in their business.

DeChantal Sisters have a very dainty singing act. They have a new array of charming songs, which they know how to sing and will no doubt become warm favorites here.

Murray's trained dogs are marvels. In Calgary they are making a big hit this week, and their dancing, acrobatic stunts, etc., will certainly make a name for themselves here.

Belle and Green, in the sketch "The Chorus Girl" present an operatic travesty that is very pleasing. They come to Edmonton with fine advance notices.

The Empire Orchestra are putting on an exceptionally attractive, and difficult overture, "Tannhauser" by R. Wagner. This has become a standard attraction, and they will no doubt excel themselves next week. Arthur Graham will render "He lives in a little white house," while a new series of comedy moving pictures will complete an all star bill.

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